

Fw: *SOME LOUISIANA REFINERIES BACK AFTER STORM ; FOUR STILL SHUT**

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***SOME LOUISIANA REFINERIES BACK AFTER STORM; FOUR STILL SHUT

A week after Gulf Coast refiners prepared for the arrival of Hurricane Isaac

by ramping down operations at plants, four refineries remain closed, one is back up and six are either restarting or are at reduced rates.

Getting power back has been a challenge for some as has been inflow of crude

resupply because of Isaac's widespread disruption to deepwater oil production and to the Gulf Coast marine transportation system. Some oil is moving -- the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port is again offloading huge tankerloads of imported crude oil and pumping oil from its storage facility to area refiners through connecting pipelines - but as of Monday afternoon some 804,000 b/d of Gulf of Mexico oil production (or 58% of total offshore output) was still shut in.

The Port of Mobile, Ala., reopened at 1:00 p.m. ET on Monday, a few days later than authorities had hoped for. However, now a number of major ports and waterways along the northern Gulf of Mexico - New Orleans, the Gulf Intercoastal Waterway, Baton Rouge, Morgan City, Houma and the ports along the Lower Mississippi below mile marker 130 - are again open. Lower Mississippi ports above mile marker 130 are open with restrictions.

Placid Refining told OPIS over the weekend that its 59,000-b/d refinery near

Baton Rouge is back to normal and at full operations after initiating restart on Thursday. In its latest update (from Sunday evening), Motiva Enterprises said that its Convent plant is continuing its startup process and expects to operate some units at reduced rates over the next few days while some power issues are resolved.

Meanwhile, the Motiva Norco plant has restarted some units and is operating others at reduced rates, the company said, adding that its Norco chemical facility is also at reduced rates. At some point during the storm the Norco refinery, which had been at reduced rates, lost power and sustained wind damage necessitating a controlled shutdown.

As of about 5:30 p.m. ET, four refineries appear to still be closed: Phillips 66 Alliance; Valero St. Charles; Chalmette and Valero Meraux.

Together

they represent some 770,000 b/d of oil processing capacity.

Workers have returned to the idled plants to plan and prepare for restarts, according to company updates. Phillips 66 indicates that the restart of Alliance depends on power being restored a third-party power provider. Chalmette is doing preliminary work for start-up by continuing with its assessment and "identifying restart plans," a spokeswoman told OPIS.

Valero said Sunday that formulation of restart plans is continuing for the St. Charles and Meraux plants and that the company didn't have plans to request

a loan of crude oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. Marathon Petroleum requested and was granted such a loan (of 1 million bbl), the Department of Energy (DOE) said Friday.

Valero's latest update on operations was not available as of presstime Monday.

In addition to Motiva's two Louisiana refineries, other plants in the region running at reduced rates are ExxonMobil Baton Rouge; Marathon Garyville; Chevron Pascagoula; and Shell Chemical Saraland. Their processing capacities total about 1.87 million b/d. Capacities and the current status of refineries affected by Isaac are as follows:

LOUISIANA		
ExxonMobil	Baton Rouge	502,500 b/d
reduced rates.		
Marathon	Garyville	490,000
reduced rates		
Phillips 66	Belle Chasse	247,000
shut down		
Motiva	Convent	
235,000	restart/reduced rates	
Motiva	Norco	
233,500	restart/reduced rates	
Valero St. Charles	Norco	
205,000	shut down	
Chalmette	Chalmette	192,500
shut down		
Valero	Meraux	
125,000	shut down	
Placid	Port Allen	
59,000	operating	
Alon	Krotz Springs	
80,000	operating	
MISSISSIPPI		
Chevron	Pascagoula	
330,000	reduced rates	
ALABAMA		
Shell Chemical	Saraland	80,000
reduced rates		
TENNESSEE		
Valero	Memphis	
180,000	rates increasing	
Grand Total		2,959,500 b/d

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